

*M* The present application is related to commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/764,707, which was filed on January 18, 2001, by William H. Zebuhr for a Cycled-Concentration Distiller, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/765,260, which was filed on January 18, 2001, by William H. Zebuhr for a Distiller Employing Separate Condensate and Concentrate Heat-Exchange Paths, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/765,261, which was filed on January 18, 2001, by William H. Zebuhr for a Rotary Evaporator Employing Self-Driven Recirculation, and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/765,475, which was filed on January 18, 2001, by William H. Zebuhr for a Distiller Employing Recirculant-Flow Filter Flushing, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 1 with the following amended version thereof to incorporate the revisions set forth on the accompanying mark-up page:

- 1* 1. (Amended) For distilling a liquid, an evaporator-and-condenser unit comprising:
- 2* A) a heat exchanger that forms at least one condensation chamber and at least
- 3* one evaporation chamber and includes heat-transfer surfaces by which heat
- 4* passes from the at least one condensation chamber to the at least one evapo-
- 5* ration chamber;
- 6* B) a varying-rate evaporation-chamber irrigation system *sprayer* whose rate of irriga-
- 7* tion of each said evaporation chamber has a respective average irrigation
- 8* rate and so varies as repeatedly to reach a respective peak irrigation rate that
- 9* is at least twice the average irrigation rate thereof; and